Around the Nation

FBI Anonymous Mailings Described

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MINNEAPOLIS—As part of the FBI's "disruption of the New Left counterintelligence program," the Minneapolis FBI office sent anonymous mailings to University of Minnesota regents in 1969, FBI files made available here show.

The stated objective, which failed, was to build pressure for cancellation of a permit the Young Socialist Alliance (YSA) had received for their Dec. 27-30, 1969, national convention in the university's student union building.

In a related move, the FBI office sent an anonymous letter to the mayor of suburban Fridley "to encourage . . . his attack on New Left forces on the campus," specifically to discourage "radical speakers and programs . . . at taxpayers' expense."

An FBI spokesman said here today that any comments on the documents would have to come from Washington. The documents, publicized in Minneapolis by the Socialist Workers Party (SWP) are among those released by U.S. District Court order in New York in a suit alleging illegal surveillance. It was brought by the SWP and its trotskyite partner, the YSA, against the FBI, CIA and other governmental agencies.

The FBI spokesman said in Washington the bureau would have no comment on the documents "because we are in litigation."

Yacht in Dispute

DANIA, Fla. — A $1.31 million yacht, the 131-foot Patricia III, which may be owned by fugitive financier Robert Vesco, sailed for Panama yesterday after a dispute over who owns it. There was speculation that it would be taken on to Costa Rica, where Vesco and his wife live in a $500,000 mansion.

An attorney for International Controls Corp. of New York, once owned by Vesco, said the yacht was purchased with funds defrauded from the company, and called the yacht's departure "an act of piracy."

The vessel was apparently spirited away by a Panamanian firm which also claims rights to the plush boat. It sailed in defiance of a New York federal court order that it be impounded pending adjudication of its ownership.

An army of officers — Dania police, Pinkerton security guards hired by International Controls, a deputy U.S. marshal and Port of Dania security guards — were persudaded to let it go when William Luttinger, U.S. marshal at Miami, said he had no Miami federal court order to detail it.

Gurney Trial

TAMPA—Joseph Bastien, a former aide to ex-Sen. Edward J. Gurney (R-Fla.), told a federal jury yesterday he was never told why he was getting apartment rent and furniture from Florida builders.

Bastien, winding up his testimony, said he never tried to keep the rent payments a secret. The government charges that builders were shaken down for money in exchange for favors from Gurney's office.

Bastien denied criminal charges against him and said he was never part of any agreement to defraud the government.

In testimony Tuesday, Bastien said he accepted expense money from Gurney fund-raiser Larry Williams.